

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A copper base alloy suitable for use as a material for a sliding member comprising, by mass %,
_____ 15 to 25% Zn,
_____ 4.2 to 10% Bi,
_____ 2 to 7% Mn,
_____ 1 to 3% Si,
_____ 0.05 to 0.3% Se,
_____ optionally 0.01 to 0.2% B, and
_____ balance of Cu and unavoidable impurities,
_____ the alloy having a structure of which matrix is composed of α -single phase, wherein a eutectic structure of the α -phase and an Mn-Si compound and Bi particle are distributed throughout the matrix.

2. (Original) A copper base alloy according to claim 1, which has a Vickers hardness ranging from 90 to 180.

3. (Original) A copper base alloy according to claim 1, which is heat-treated to be hardened so as the have Vickers hardness ranging from 120 to 180.

4-7. (Cancelled)